

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B01D11/04 G01N1/40 C12N15/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B01D G01N C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 271 840 A (KRESHECK GORDON C) 21 December 1993 (1993-12-21) examples 1,2	1-6
Y		7
X	WO 01/76385 A (RASSENHOVEL JUERGEN ; BEST BERND (DE); KIRCHNER STEFAN (DE); WITT WILL) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) page 5, line 18 - page 6, line 2 page 6, line 14 - line 24 page 7, line 3 - line 11	1-3,5,6
X	US 5 625 053 A (ALTSCHULER MITCHELL ET AL) 29 April 1997 (1997-04-29) column 4, line 40 - line 42 column 4, line 60 - line 67	2,3,5,6, 8
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/12/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 3 696 030 A (SCHUMACHER HEINZ OTTO) 3 October 1972 (1972-10-03) column 2, line 34 - line 41 -----	
A	US 5 266 205 A (FULTON JOHN L ET AL) 30 November 1993 (1993-11-30) column 26, line 23 - line 32 -----	
A	EP 0 818 225 A (INDENA SPA) 14 January 1998 (1998-01-14) page 1, line 1 - line 12 -----	

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Information on patent family members

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